



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
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July 17, 2020

VIA SHAREPOINT

The Division of Administrative Law
1020 Florida Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RE: *In the Matter of Gretchen Bradford*
Agency Tracking No.: 2019-689

Dear Ms. Duhon:

On behalf of the Louisiana Board of Ethics, please file the attached *Charges* in the referenced matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 225-219-5619, and thank you.

Kindest regards,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Elizabeth Barrouquere
Staff Paralegal

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Gretchen Bradford (via certified mail no. 70191120000179772828)

STATE OF LOUISIANA
THE LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

IN THE MATTER OF

* DOCKET NO. 2020-_____-ETHICS__

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GRETCHEN BRADFORD

* AGENCY TRACKING NO. 2019-689

CHARGES

The Louisiana Board of Ethics ("BOE") voted on July 2, 2020 to and **DOES HEREBY** file the following charge:

1.

Gretchen Bradford ("Ms. Bradford") was appointed to the Better Choice Foundation Board ("Board") Governance Committee on July 7, 2016. Ms. Bradford resigned from the Board on October 7, 2019.

2.

The Better Choice Foundation registered with the Louisiana Secretary of State as a nonprofit corporation on May 25, 2011. On December 5, 2012, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education ("BESE") approved the Better Choice Foundation's application for a Type 5 charter school. The Board is in charge of operating the Mary D. Coghill Charter School ("School").

3.

Marion Madison ("Ms. Madison") was employed by the School as the Content Coordinator beginning in July 2018. In August 2019, Ms. Madison was promoted to Principal of the School. Ms. Madison is Ms. Bradford's sister.

4.

La. R.S. 42:1102(3) defines “agency head” as the chief executive or administrative officer of an agency or any member of a board or commission who exercises supervision over the agency.

5.

La. R.S. 42:1119(A) states that no member of the immediate family of an agency head shall be employed in his agency.

6.

Based on the foregoing facts, Ms. Bradford may have violated La. R.S. 42:1119(A) by virtue of her membership on the Board while her sister, Ms. Bradford, was employed as the Content Coordinator and the Principal by the School.

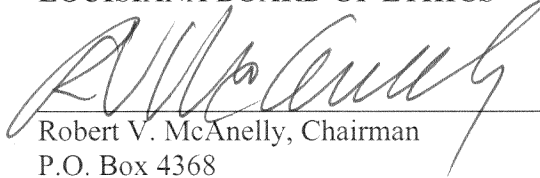
7.

In accordance with La. R.S. 42:1141(C)(3)(b)(iv), the BOE designates LaToya D. Jordan and Tracy M. Barker as the BOE’s trial attorneys in this matter.

WHEREFORE, the Louisiana Board of Ethics respectfully requests that the Ethics Adjudicatory Board: (1) conduct a hearing on the foregoing charge; (2) determine that Gretchen Bradford violated La. R.S. 42:1119(A);and, (3) assess the appropriate penalties in accordance with the recommendation of the Louisiana Board of Ethics to be submitted during the public hearing on this matter or at another time deemed appropriated by the Ethics Adjudicatory Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS



Robert V. McAnelly, Chairman

P.O. Box 4368

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Telephone: (225) 219-5600

Facsimile: (225) 381-7271

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing *Charges* have been served on the Respondent by U.S. Registered or Certified Mail this 17th day of July 2020.

RESPONDENT:

Gretchen Bradford
4230 Mithra Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

ATTORNEY:

None at this time.



LATOYA D. JORDAN

Trial Attorney